



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE

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TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INSURANCE HELPS LAUNCH 10TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTION WEEK

Nashville, TN - - The Tennessee Department of Commerce and Insurance has joined a group of federal, state and local government agencies and national consumer advocacy organizations to launch the 10th annual National Consumer Protection Week (NCPW), March 2-8, 2008.

NCPW highlights consumer education efforts in the fight against fraud in communities across the nation. NCPW 2008's organizers encourage consumers from coast to coast to fortify their financial know-how. Financially savvy consumers are likely to make smarter decisions about managing their money, using credit wisely and building a solid financial foundation.

According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), consumers conduct some type of financial transaction requiring an educated decision every day: shopping for a mortgage or auto loan; understanding and reconciling credit card statements and telephone bills; choosing savings and retirement plans; comparing health insurance policies; understanding their credit report and how it affects their ability to get credit and on what terms; or simply deciding how to pay for a purchase. NCPW partner organizations provide practical tips so consumers can learn how to make well-informed financial decisions, avoid credit scams and protect their personal information.

National organizers of this year's NCPW include the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), the U.S. Postal Inspection Service (USPIS), the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Better Business Bureau (BBB)

"The Department of Commerce and Insurance is proud to be a part of this year's National Consumer Protection Week campaign, along with our local consumer community," said Commissioner Leslie Newman. "Education is the first line of defense for consumers who want to manage their money wisely and protect themselves from frauds and rip-offs. We encourage all consumers to take advantage of the resources that NCPW features to help them master the financial facts of life."

For more information or assistance, contact the Department of Commerce and Insurance Consumer Affairs Division at 1-800-342-8385 or visit www.state.tn.us/consumer. For more information about National Consumer Protection Week, visit www.consumer.gov/ncpw.

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